

## OBSTETRICS.

## UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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**Asphyxia from Enlarged Thyroid.**—In the *British Medical Journal*, June 6, 1903, MACDONALD reports the case of an infant suffering at birth from profound asphyxia, which passed off under treatment by rhythmic traction on the tongue and other methods. On examination it was found that both lobes of the thyroid were enlarged, each the size of a large marble, while the isthmus was the size of an adult little finger. As respiration was difficult, tracheotomy was attempted. The congestion of veins surrounding the thyroid was so great that it was impossible to reach the trachea below the isthmus. The child died while the isthmus was ligated and divided.

Labor occurred at eight months, and polyhydramnios was present. Extension of the head was limited by the tightness of the skin over the swelling.

The mother had two children, each born at about eight months. There was no history of syphilis. From the second month until labor she had taken chlorate of potassium and iron to prevent a miscarriage.

**Fracture of the Clavicle in the Fœtus Occurring after Spontaneous Labor.**—MUUS (*Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, No. 23, 1903) has found in 1200 children born in a maternity hospital 18 cases of fracture of the clavicle, and in another series of 500, 4 cases. This gives a percentage from 1.5 to 1.3. He found no case of double fracture of the clavicle.

Among the mothers, nine were primiparæ and thirteen multiparæ. Comparison with other statistics shows that the accident is twice as frequent with multiparæ as with primiparæ.

The right clavicle was fractured in 14 cases; the left in 8. So far as the presentation of the fœtus was concerned, in 15 cases the anterior collar-bone was broken, and in 3 the posterior. The position of the fœtus was more frequently the first, the relation between the first and second being 9 to 6.

The children were usually large. Only one of them was of average weight. The accident occurs twice as frequently in male children as with female.

So far as the pelvis was concerned, it was justomino in 3 cases, and in 2 of these the child was delivered by forceps. In all there were five forceps' delivery among these cases. The percentage of frequency in cases delivered by forceps was 8.3. In 5 cases the extraction of the shoulders was difficult, and the children were of excessive size. In 4 cases the shoulders were expelled without assistance.

The fracture was always situated in the middle third of the bone. Only once was the fracture incomplete, and all cases recovered with the formation